## DNR Fiel d Stations

Office hours 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

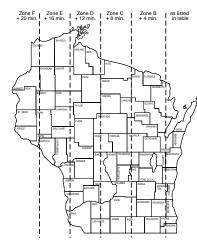
South Central Region (Madison) Central Office Info Center  Dodgeville Horicon	608/266-2621 608/935-3368
Southeast Region (Milwaukee) .  Hartford (Pike Lake)  Kettle Moraine State Forest S. Unit  Plymouth  Sturtevant	414/670-3400 414/594-6200 920/892-8756
Northeast Region (Green Bay) Oshkosh Peshtigo Sturgeon Bay Service Center	920/424-3050 715/582-5000
West Central Region (Eau Claire) Baldwin Black River Falls La Crosse Wausau Wisconsin Rapids	715/684-2914 715/284-1400 608/785-9000 715/359-8126
Northern Region Antigo Brule Cumberland Park Falls Rhinelander Spooner Superior	715/372-4866 715/822-3590 715/762-3204 715/365-8900 715/635-2101

Department of Natural Resources Madison, Wisconsin 53707



# **Hunting Hours**

To determine the opening (a.m.) and closing (p.m.) times for all zones, add the minutes shown (see map) to the times listed in the table below.



Hunting Hours			
Date		A.M.	P.M.
Sept.	11	5:56	7:24
	12	5:58	7:23
	13	5:59	7:21
	14	6:00	7:19
	15	6:01	7:17
	16	6:02	7:15
	17	6:03	7:14
	18	6:04	7:12
	19	6:05	7:10
	20	6:06	7:08
	21	6:07	7:06
	22	6:08	7:05
	23	6:10	7:03
	24	6:11	7:01
	25	6:12	6:59
	26	6:13	6:57
	27	6:14	6:56
	28	6:15	6:54
	29	6:16	6:52
	30	6:17	6:50
Oct.	1	6:18	6:48
	2	6:20	6:47
	3	6:21	6:45
	4	6:22	6:43
	5	6:23	6:41
	6	6:24	6:40
	7	6:25	6:38
	8	6:26	6:36

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## Season Dates -

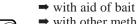
Zone C and portions of Zone A and B where dogs are not permitted: September 11 - October 8

Subzone A1 and portions of Zone A and B where dogs are permitted: September 11 - September 17 **⇒** with aid of dogs only

#### September 18 - October 1

- ⇒ with aid of dogs
- **⇒** with aid of bait
- **⇒** with other methods

#### October 2 - October 8





**⇒** with other methods **not** utilizing dogs

## Dear Wisconsin Bear Hunter,

The collection of bear teeth is a very important part of our bear monitoring program. The teeth allow us to determine the age structure of the population, the age when females produce their first litter and the years in which they produced litters. Unfortunately, many registration stations have been unable to collect the teeth. We need to obtain a larger sample.

To accomplish this we are asking each hunter to collect and send in a tooth from the bear they harvest. Starting in 1999, all hunters purchasing a Class A license will be provided with a tooth envelope and tooth pulling instructions. Registration stations will still have tooth envelopes. In cases where the station does not take a tooth from a bear you harvest, please use the provided envelope to send in a tooth. Hunters doing so will be notified of the age of their bear shortly after the teeth have been processed. This usually takes 8-10 months.

Also, it is <u>legal</u> to shoot ear tagged bears!! With USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services we are ear-tagging bears caught on nuisance/ damage complaints, during winter den surveys and with other research projects to obtain another estimate of bear population. *If you shoot one of these ear-tagged bears* please notify us by calling USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services at 1-800-228-1368. It is very important that all harvested eartagged bears are reported.

Thanks for your cooperation and continued efforts in assisting with managing Wisconsin's bear population.

Sincerely,

Deer and Bear Ecologist

# Licenses and Permits

### To Appl y:

The application deadline for both Class A bear licenses is the Friday nearest January 15. Class B bear licenses are available for purchase throughout the year, including during the season. Applications are available at DNR Service Centers listed on the back. A \$3.00 application fee must be submitted with each class A bear license application.

## Cl ass B License

(Residents: \$8, Non-residents: \$100) Formerly called a "bear pursuit" license, a Class B license is required to assist a bear harvest permit holder in hunting activities, including baiting and dog training. To assist with the bear hunt means helping a Class A license holder hunt bear by handling dogs, locating bear, or engaging in other bear hunting activities that enable the Class A licensee to locate bear. You do not need to be with a Class A license holder to place bait. A Class B license is required of all members of a dog training group (12 years and older) if they are handling dogs, locating bear, or assisting the dog owners in locating bear, monitoring radios, trailing, or tracking. Persons under the age of 12 can engage in any of these activities without purchasing a license.

### Class A License

(Residents: \$41, Non-Residents: \$201) Formerly called a "bear harvest permit", a Class A bear license allows the holder to shoot and tag a bear. It also includes all the privileges of a Class B bear license.

### Bear Hunting Back Tag

A bear hunting Back Tag is issued to all Class A and Class B bear licensees. Back tags must be worn while hunting bear, training dogs, or assisting the holder of a Class A bear license. Back tags do not have to be worn while baiting bears.

### Permit Issuance

The number of bear permits issued per management zone is based upon previous hunter success rates and current bear population estimates.

Hunters are selected using a cumulative preference system. Applicants who have been unsuccessful for the greatest number of years are chosen first. Hunters must apply every 3 years to maintain their preference status.

## Firearm and Archery Restrictions

## It is illegal to:

- ❖ Hunt bear with any rim-fire rifle, .17 caliber centerfire rifle, .410 shotgun, fully automatic firearm, or with ammunition loaded with full metal jacket, nonexpanding type bullets.
- Use handguns, unless they are loaded with .357, .41 and .44 magnum caliber cartridges or any other caliber handgun chambered for commerciallymanufactured cartridges which produce a minimum muzzle energy of 1,000 foot pounds. These handguns must have a minimum barrel length of 5½ inches measured from the muzzle to the firing pin with the action closed.
- ❖ Use a muzzleloader, unless it is a smoothbore muzzleloading firearm of .45 caliber or larger, or a rifled muzzleloading firearm of .40 caliber or larger.
- Hunt bear with a bow having a pull of less than 30 pounds, or to use arrows which have metal broadhead blades less than seven-eighths of an inch wide.
- Possess while hunting, any crossbow (except permanently disabled residents and nonresidents under DNR permit) or poisoned, drugged or explosive tipped arrow.
- ❖ Possess, place or transport, in or on any moving or stationary vehicle, any firearm, bow or crossbow, unless the firearm is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case, and the bow or crossbow is unstrung or enclosed within a carrying case.

## Road Hunting

### It is illegal to:

- ❖ Hunt within 50 feet of the roadway's center.
- ❖ Discharge a firearm, or shoot an arrow from a bow or a bolt from a crossbow from or across a highway or within 50 feet of the roadway's center.

This prohibition applies to all public roads which are either paved or indicated on a current Department of Transportation county highway map. Unpaved fire lanes are exempt and shown as dotted lines on county maps.

Note: Class A disabled permit holders are exempt from certain portions of this requirement when hunting from a stationary vehicle. Contact your local DNR office for more information.

## Other Restrictions

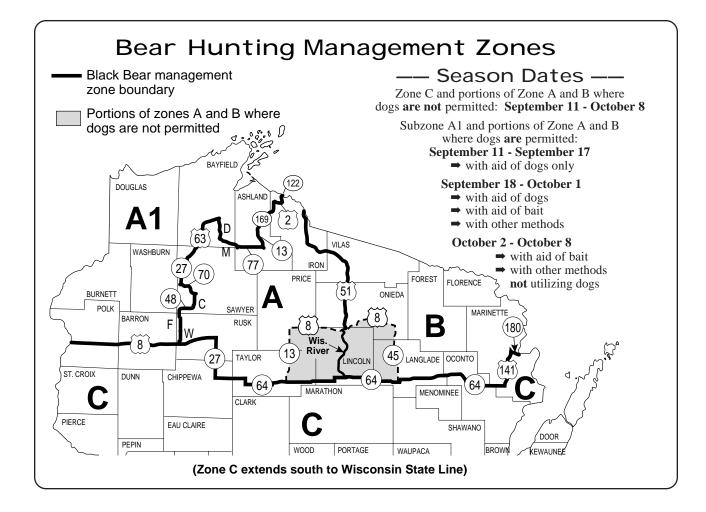
#### It is illegal to:

- Shoot or molest any bear in a den, hunt bear in any dump or sanitary landfill, or kill a cub or any adult bear accompanied by a cub or cubs. If you're not sure, don't shoot!
- Possess a bear carcass unless lawfully tagged.
- Sell, buy, trade or barter bear hides unless the claws, head and teeth are attached, and you possess a valid Class A bear license or taxidermist license. Bear claws and teeth may not be sold, purchased, traded or bartered when separated from the hide. The sale of other bear parts is also prohibited.

## Bear Hunting Management Zones

❖ Hunters who apply for and receive a Class A bear license for subzone A1 may hunt only in subzone A1. Hunters who receive a Class A bear license to hunt in zone A may hunt in subzone A1 or any part of zone A.

Zone A has been split in an effort to shift hunting pressure from the more heavily hunted portions of zone A to subzone A1, an area which has traditionally received less pressure and has had greater numbers of bear damage and nuisance complaints. Because A1 is a subzone and falls within zone A, the State Administrative Code requires that hunters with zone A licenses be allowed to also hunt in subzone A1.



# Dog Training and Use

### It is illegal to:

Hunt bear with dogs, except in the non-shaded portions of zones A, A1, and B of the bear hunting management zones map during the season for dogs.

Train dogs by pursuing bear except during July 1 through August 31. Bear dog training is not permitted during the bear hunting season.

❖ Train dogs on DNR lands, from April 15 through July 31, unless the dog is on a leash no longer than 8 feet, except on Class 1 field trial grounds or for bear dog training on DNR lands other than state parks after July 1.

- Hunt or train dogs unless one person in the group has on their person rabies tags or dog license tags for each dog.
- Hunt, train dogs, or pursue bear with a dog that is not tattooed, or that isn't wearing a collar with the owner's name and address attached.
- Allow the dogs to kill any wild animal.
- Hunt, train dogs, or pursue bear with more than 6 dogs in a single pack, regardless of the number of bear hunters or the dog's ownership.
- Replace a dog engaged in the pursuit of a bear with another dog. However, dogs may be added to the pack up to the maximum of 6 dogs.

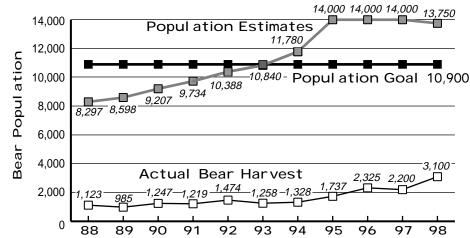
\* Hunt or pursue any free-roaming wild animal with the aid of any dog, from May 1 to June 30, north of the highways shown on the map below, except for dog trials and training under DNR permit.



If not in possession of a Class A license, a Class B license is required of all members of a dog training group (12 years and older) if they are handling dogs, locating bear, or assisting the dog owners in locating a bear, monitoring radios, trailing, or tracking. Persons under the age of 12 can engage in any of these activities without purchasing a license.

# Bear Popul ation and Harvest Trends: 1988-1997





## Baiting

#### It is illegal to:

- **a.** place, use or hunt over bait contained within or containing metal, paper, plastic, glass, wood (other than hollow stumps) or other nondegradable materials.
- **b.** use any baiting material, liquid or scent for attracting wild animals containing honey, bones, fish, meat, solid animal fat (which includes bacon grease) or parts of animal carcasses.
- **c.** place or hunt over baiting material, liquid or scent within 50 yards of any trail, road or campsite used by the public.
- **d.** hunt over baiting material, liquid or scent during the archery season without possessing a valid, unused bear harvest permit or archery deer tag.
- **e.** use or hunt over a baited area containing more than 10 gallons of bait material or liquid scent. *Note: You may hunt over material deposited by natural vegetation or found solely as a result of normal agricultural practices.*

#### It is illegal to:

♦ hunt or pursue animals, or train dogs, in an area baited in violation of **a**, **b**, or **e** (above) from July 1 through January 1 unless the area is completely free of baiting material for at least 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, pursuing animals or dog training.

# Tagging and Registration

- Immediately upon killing, and before field dressing or moving the bear, you must validate the carcass tag by slitting the marks indicated on the tag. Immediately following validation, the carcass tag shall be attached to the bear at any location on the bear.
- ❖ If quartered, the carcass tag should be attached to the hide and both hide and carcass should be displayed at registration.
- Each bear must be registered within the county or adjoining county in which the bear was killed and within the black bear management zone or subzone in which it was killed no later than 5:00 pm on the day after the kill.
- The person who tags the bear must keep the carcass and registration tag with the butchered meat until it is consumed.

# Transport

#### It is illegal to:

- Transport another person's unregistered bear unless accompanied by the person issued the carcass tag. Once registered, anyone may transport the animal.
- Transport an unregistered bear, in or on a vehicle, unless the animal is openly exposed and placed so that the riders cannot handle the carcass tag.

Note: Residents and nonresidents may transport legally possessed bear out of state.

# Bear Damage Assistance

Bear damage to crops is sometimes severe enough that the DNR may authorize landowners to kill bears prior to the fall hunting season. We know that many hunters wish to improve hunter-landowner relationships and would be willing to assist in the shooting of bears causing damage. Willing hunters would be expected to act promptly, within 48 hours of notification, and get to the damage site to assist the landowner. Since shooting is restricted to the damage site, dog use is not allowed. Interested hunters should contact their local DNR office for more information.

The contents of this pamphlet were prepared by the Department of Natural Resources. A portion of the printing costs were paid for by the Wisconsin Bow Hunters' Association and the Wisconsin Bear Hunters' Association.



Association
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Clintonville, WI 54929



Wisconsin Bear Hunters' Association 853 Badlands Rd. Hudson, WI 54016

#### Support Ethical Responsible Hunting

#### Report Violations Call 1-800-847-9367

Toll Free • Statewide • 24-Hour • Confidential

(This is not an information number.)

Conservation wardens may enter private lands while performing their duties.